

2011 Vermont Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey

This survey is about health behavior. It has been developed so you can tell us what you do that may affect your health. The information you give will be used to improve health education for young people like yourself.

DO NOT write your name on this survey. The answers you give will be kept private. No one will know what you write. Answer the questions based on what you really do.

Completing the survey is voluntary. Whether or not you answer the questions will not affect your grade in this class. If you are not comfortable answering a question, just leave it blank.

The questions that ask about your background will be used only to describe the types of students completing this survey. The information will not be used to find out your name. No names will ever be reported.

Make sure to read every question. Fill in the ovals completely. When you are finished, follow the instructions of the person giving you the survey.

Thank you very much for your help.

Directions

- Use a #2 pencil only.
- Make dark marks.
- Fill in a response like this: A B ● D.
- If you change your answer, erase your old answer completely.

1. How old are you?
 - A. 10 years old or younger
 - B. 11 years old
 - C. 12 years old
 - D. 13 years old
 - E. 14 years old
 - F. 15 years old
 - G. 16 years old or older
2. What is your sex?
 - A. Female
 - B. Male
3. In what grade are you?
 - A. 6th grade
 - B. 7th grade
 - C. 8th grade
 - D. Ungraded or other grade
4. Are you Hispanic or Latino?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
5. What is your race? (**Select one or more responses.**)
 - A. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - B. Asian
 - C. Black or African American
 - D. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - E. White

The next 6 questions ask about safety.

6. **When you ride a bicycle**, how often do you wear a helmet?
 - A. I do not ride a bicycle
 - B. Never wear a helmet
 - C. Rarely wear a helmet
 - D. Sometimes wear a helmet
 - E. Most of the time wear a helmet
 - F. Always wear a helmet
7. **When you rollerblade or ride a skateboard**, how often do you wear a helmet?
 - A. I do not rollerblade or ride a skateboard
 - B. Never wear a helmet
 - C. Rarely wear a helmet
 - D. Sometimes wear a helmet
 - E. Most of the time wear a helmet
 - F. Always wear a helmet
8. How often do you wear a seat belt when **riding** in a car?
 - A. Never
 - B. Rarely
 - C. Sometimes
 - D. Most of the time
 - E. Always
9. Have you ever ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Not sure
10. Have you ever been in a physical fight?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

11. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you **not** go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 or 3 days
 - D. 4 or 5 days
 - E. 6 or more days

The next 4 questions ask about bullying. Bullying occurs when, on many occasions, a student or group of students say or do unpleasant things to another student to make fun of, tease, embarrass, or scare him/her; or purposefully exclude him/her. Bullying can occur before, during, or after the school day; on school property, a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity. It is not bullying when two students of about the same strength and power argue or fight or when teasing is done in a friendly way.

12. Have you ever been bullied **on school property**?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
13. Have you ever been **electronically** bullied? (Include being bullied through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, Web sites, or texting.)
- A. Yes
 - B. No
14. During the past 30 days, on how many days were you bullied?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 or more days
15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you bully someone?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 or more days

The next 3 questions ask about attempted suicide. Sometimes people feel so depressed about the future that they may consider attempting suicide or killing themselves.

16. Have you ever **seriously** thought about killing yourself?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
17. Have you ever made a **plan** about how you would kill yourself?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
18. Have you ever **tried** to kill yourself?
- A. Yes
 - B. No

The next 23 questions ask about tobacco use.

19. Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
20. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?
- A. I have never smoked a whole cigarette
 - B. 8 years old or younger
 - C. 9 years old
 - D. 10 years old
 - E. 11 years old
 - F. 12 years old
 - G. 13 years old or older
21. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days

22. During the past 30 days, on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke **per day**?
- A. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - B. Less than 1 cigarette per day
 - C. 1 cigarette per day
 - D. 2 to 5 cigarettes per day
 - E. 6 to 10 cigarettes per day
 - F. 11 to 20 cigarettes per day
 - G. More than 20 cigarettes per day
23. During the past 30 days, how did you **usually** get your own cigarettes? (Select only **one** response.)
- A. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - B. I bought them in a store such as a convenience store, supermarket, discount store, or gas station
 - C. I bought them from a vending machine
 - D. I gave someone else money to buy them for me
 - E. I borrowed (or bummed) them from someone else
 - F. A person 18 years old or older gave them to me
 - G. I took them from a store or family member
 - H. I got them some other way
24. During the past 30 days, how many times did you get cigarettes from someone 17 years old or younger?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 time
 - C. 2 or 3 times
 - D. 4 or 5 times
 - E. 6 or more times
25. During the past 12 months, did you ever try **to quit** smoking cigarettes?
- A. I did not smoke during the past 12 months
 - B. Yes
 - C. No

26. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use **chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip**, such as Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, or Copenhagen?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days
27. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke **cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars**?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days
28. During your life, have you ever used Snus, such as Camel Snus or Marlboro Snus?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
29. During the past 7 days, were you in the same **room** with someone who was smoking cigarettes?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
30. During the past 7 days, were you in the same **car** with someone who was smoking cigarettes?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
31. During the past 12 months, did any doctor, dentist, nurse, or other health professional ask you if you smoke?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Not sure

32. During the past 12 months, did your parents or guardians discuss the dangers of tobacco use with you?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
33. During the past 12 months, did you participate in any community activities to discourage people your age from using cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, or cigars?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
34. During the past 30 days, how many times have you seen or heard ads on TV, the Internet, or on the radio about the dangers of cigarette smoking?
- A. 0 times during the past 30 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 30 days
 - C. 1 to 3 times per week
 - D. Daily or almost daily
 - E. More than once a day
35. During the past 30 days, how many times have you seen ads on TV about not smoking cigarettes?
- A. 0 times during the past 30 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 30 days
 - C. 1 to 3 times per week
 - D. Daily or almost daily
 - E. More than once a day
36. Have you ever seen TV ads or heard radio ads that talked about how many teens in Vermont choose not to smoke?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Not sure

37. Out of 100 Vermont high school students, how many do you think smoke cigarettes?
- A. 15 or less students
 - B. 16 to 25 students
 - C. 26 to 45 students
 - D. 46 to 55 students
 - E. 56 to 75 students
 - F. 76 or more students
38. If you wanted to get cigarettes, how hard or easy would it be for you to get some?
- A. Very hard
 - B. Sort of hard
 - C. Sort of easy
 - D. Very easy
39. How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to smoke cigarettes?
- A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not wrong at all
40. How wrong do your parents or guardians feel it would be for you to smoke cigarettes?
- A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not wrong at all
 - E. Not sure
41. How much do you think **people your age** risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?
- A. No risk
 - B. Slight risk
 - C. Moderate risk
 - D. Great risk

The next 8 questions ask about drinking alcohol. This includes drinking beer, wine, liquor (such as rum, gin, vodka, or whiskey), and other alcoholic beverages (such as Smirnoff Ice, Bacardi Silver, Mike's Hard Lemonade, or Twisted Tea). For these questions, drinking alcohol does not include drinking a few sips of wine for religious purposes.

42. Have you ever had a drink of alcohol, other than a few sips?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
43. How old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol other than a few sips?
 - A. I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips
 - B. 8 years old or younger
 - C. 9 years old
 - D. 10 years old
 - E. 11 years old
 - F. 12 years old
 - G. 13 years old or older
44. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?
 - A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days
45. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?
 - A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 days
 - D. 3 to 5 days
 - E. 6 to 9 days
 - F. 10 to 19 days
 - G. 20 or more days

46. If you wanted to get alcohol, how hard or easy would it be for you to get some?
 - A. Very hard
 - B. Sort of hard
 - C. Sort of easy
 - D. Very easy
47. How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to drink alcohol?
 - A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not at all wrong
48. How wrong do your parents or guardians feel it would be for you to drink alcohol?
 - A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not at all wrong
 - E. Not sure
49. How much do you think **people your age** risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they have five or more drinks of alcohol once or twice each weekend?
 - A. No risk
 - B. Slight risk
 - C. Moderate risk
 - D. Great risk

The next 7 questions ask about marijuana. Marijuana also is called pot, grass, weed, or smoke.

50. Have you ever used marijuana?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

51. How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?
- A. I have never tried marijuana
 - B. 8 years old or younger
 - C. 9 years old
 - D. 10 years old
 - E. 11 years old
 - F. 12 years old
 - G. 13 years old or older
52. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 or 2 times
 - C. 3 to 9 times
 - D. 10 to 19 times
 - E. 20 to 39 times
 - F. 40 or more times
53. If you wanted to get marijuana, how hard or easy would it be for you to get some?
- A. Very hard
 - B. Sort of hard
 - C. Sort of easy
 - D. Very easy
54. How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to smoke marijuana?
- A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not at all wrong
55. How wrong do your parents or guardians feel it would be for you to smoke marijuana?
- A. Very wrong
 - B. Wrong
 - C. A little bit wrong
 - D. Not at all wrong
 - E. Not sure

56. How much do you think **people your age** risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they smoke marijuana regularly?
- A. No risk
 - B. Slight risk
 - C. Moderate risk
 - D. Great risk

The next 2 questions ask about other drug use.

57. Have you ever sniffed glue, breathed the contents of spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
58. Have you ever taken a **prescription drug** (such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax) without a doctor's prescription?
- A. Yes
 - B. No

The next 4 questions ask about body weight and nutrition.

59. How do **you** describe your weight?
- A. Very underweight
 - B. Slightly underweight
 - C. About the right weight
 - D. Slightly overweight
 - E. Very overweight
60. Which of the following are you trying to do about your weight?
- A. **Lose** weight
 - B. **Gain** weight
 - C. **Stay** the same weight
 - D. I am **not trying to do anything** about my weight

61. During the past 30 days, did you **skip meals** to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
62. During the past 7 days, on how many days did you eat **breakfast**?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 days
 - D. 3 days
 - E. 4 days
 - F. 5 days
 - G. 6 days
 - H. 7 days

The next 4 questions ask about physical activity.

63. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of **at least 60 minutes per day**? (Add up all the time you spent in any kind of physical activity that increased your heart rate and made you breathe hard some of the time.)
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 days
 - D. 3 days
 - E. 4 days
 - F. 5 days
 - G. 6 days
 - H. 7 days
64. On an average school day, how many hours do you watch TV?
- A. I do not watch TV on an average school day
 - B. Less than 1 hour per day
 - C. 1 hour per day
 - D. 2 hours per day
 - E. 3 hours per day
 - F. 4 hours per day
 - G. 5 or more hours per day

65. On an average school day, how many hours do you play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work? (Include activities such as Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo DS, iPod touch, Facebook, and the Internet.)
- A. I do not play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work
 - B. Less than 1 hour per day
 - C. 1 hour per day
 - D. 2 hours per day
 - E. 3 hours per day
 - F. 4 hours per day
 - G. 5 or more hours per day
66. In an average week when you are in school, on how many days do you go to physical education (PE) classes?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 days
 - D. 3 days
 - E. 4 days
 - F. 5 days

The next 5 questions ask about other health-related behaviors.

67. During the past 7 days, on how many days did you go online for something that was not for school?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 days
 - D. 3 days
 - E. 4 days
 - F. 5 days
 - G. 6 days
 - H. 7 days

68. How often does one of your parents talk with you about what you are doing in school?
- A. Never
 - B. Less than once a month
 - C. About once or twice a month
 - D. About once or twice a week
 - E. About every day
69. Do you agree or disagree that your teachers really care about you and give you a lot of encouragement?
- A. Strongly agree
 - B. Agree
 - C. Not sure
 - D. Disagree
 - E. Strongly disagree

70. Do you agree or disagree that students help decide what goes on in your school?
- A. Strongly agree
 - B. Agree
 - C. Not sure
 - D. Disagree
 - E. Strongly disagree
71. Do you agree or disagree that in your community you feel like you matter to people?
- A. Strongly agree
 - B. Agree
 - C. Not sure
 - D. Disagree
 - E. Strongly disagree

**This is the end of the survey.
Thank you very much for your help.**